

setting a plurality of variable-length coding tables having different patterns of a regular region and an escape region according to statistical characteristics of said run, level data;

selecting one of said plurality of variable-length coding tables according to intra/inter mode information of the currently processed block, zigzag scanning position and quantization step size; and

variable-length coding the orthogonal transform coefficients according to said selected variable-length coding table, wherein said selecting step has the selecting range of a plurality of variable-length coding tables having different patterns of a regular region and an escape region according to said intra/inter mode information of the currently processed block.

Claim 3, line 2, change "2" to --1--.

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone conversations of August 28 and September 2, 1997.

During a telephone conversation on August 28, 1997, the Examiner stated that claim 1 would be allowable and the application passed to issue if: 1) Claim 1 were to be amended to include the limitations of claim 2; 2) claim 2 were to be cancelled; and 3)